MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 MARCH 1982

Jordan-West Bank

A decree issued by Jordan's martial law administrator, transmitted by PETRA-JANA, said anyone who remains in the Israeli-sponsored village leagues, village unions and other organizations collaborating with the Israeli authorities in the West Bank will be prosecuted for treason by the competent courts, which will pass sentences that could include the death penalty and confiscation of property. Granting those who were "deceived" into joining such organizations 1 month to withdraw, the decree said that the leagues and unions have become the right hand of the occupation authorities, which intend to annex the West Bank and evict its inhabitants, and that they have become increasingly dangerous because of Israeli attempts to arm and train them.

According to Jerusalem radio, village league chiefs said they are not threatened by the Jordanian ultimatum.

Israel

Hawk Missiles -- A Defense Ministry spokesman said Israel is not buying new Hawk missile batteries from the United States but parts from old batteries, with the aim of modernizing them, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel wants to buy around 100 missiles for the modernized batteries, he added. The spokesman stressed that this does not constitute a quantitative increase, rather a qualitative improvement.

Comment on Habib Mission -- U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib's call for Israel to act with utmost restraint on its northern border has aroused astonishment among government circles, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that Prime Minister Menahem Begin has explicitly informed the U.S. President that Israel does not intend to initiate a war in the north because of a slight terrorist provocation, the radio said Israeli officials are worried by the U.S. campaign against a possible Israeli operation in Lebanon and want to learn the reasons for it.

Lebanon

Habib Mission -- U.S. envoy Habib arrived in Beirut, where he held separate meetings with President Ilyas Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, according to Beirut radio. The discussions centered on the results of Habib's tour of Middle East capitals. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Al-Wazzan said that while Habib's talk was reassuring, "none of us can be certain or be completely reassured" because Israel cannot be trusted. Habib did not submit a formula for the Lebanese situation, Al-Wazzan said, and did not transmit any new Israeli conditions for maintaining the cease-fire.

Security Situation -- A ship in Tyre port was blown up by unknown persons, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. While the radio said the ship was carrying arms for the Palestinians, Beirut radio said it was carrying rice. According to Jerusalem radio, the IDF denied that Israeli frogmen had sunk the boat. Meanwhile, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the IDF held maneuvers near the Lebanese border, called up reserve tank and artillery forces and increased its forces on the border. The Voice of Lebanon said Israeli artillery shelled the Al-Hasbani area during the night of 9 March.

Egypt

AL-AKHBAR reported that President Husni Mubarak told a National Democratic Party meeting in Upper Egypt that the economic situation is much more difficult than anyone had imagined, according to MENA. He said there is a budget deficit, not a surplus.

Libya

According to JANA an American, who claimed to be from the CIA and wanted to remain anonymous, contacted Libya's security authorities to warn them that Israel will soon attack southern Lebanon and that a U.S. carrier aircraft bearing Israeli markings will shortly attack Libya. The source said the CIA, the Pentagon and President Ronald Reagan approved the plan but the State Department was not informed of it because of differences within the U.S. administration.

GCC

Following their session in Riyadh which ended on 9 March, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Council of Ministers issued a statement announcing that Bahrain and Qatar had agreed to freeze their territorial dispute and not allow it to escalate. According to the statement, which was carried by SPA, the two GCC countries agreed to halt propaganda campaigns against each other and Saudi Arabia will be asked to mediate in the dispute. The GCC Ministerial Council also expressed displeasure at Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's stand toward Saudi Arabia, the statement said, and agreed that GCC member states should sign a reciprocal general security agreement.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Khomeyni on War -- Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni told members of the army and revolution guards that making peace with criminals and compromising with them is a crime against Islam. In his speech, which was broadcast by Tehran radio, Khomeyni said that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn hopes that mediation will save him, but he is past salvation and the Iranians will not retreat a single step. Praising Iranian combatants for their "miracles" in Abadan and Tang-e Chazzabeh, Khomeyni said victory will be achieved by strength of faith. He also denied Iran is receiving weapons from Israel.

Islamic Conference Mediation -- After a further meeting in Jidda, the Islamic Conference Good Offices Committee issued a statement announcing that while Iraq and Iran both prefer that their dispute be resolved peacefully within the framework of a solution proposed by the Good Offices Committee, both sides continue to differ over the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Iranian territory. The statement, which was transmitted by SPA, said that Iraq still wants the withdrawal to be carried out after negotiations, while Iran believes the withdrawal should be made prior to any negotiations. The statement expressed satisfaction at the depth reached in the recent negotiations in Baghdad and Tehran and said the committee remains at the disposal of the two sides.

Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti said in a related press conference reported by SPA that the Good Offices Committee will continue its work through a subcommittee. He denied that the committee had failed, saying that the expressed desire of both sides for the committee to continue its work to find a solution is a positive step.

Saddam Husayn Remarks -- In a French television interview reported by INA, President Saddam Husayn said Iraqi forces retain control of Al-Muhammarah -- the Iraqi term for Khuninshahr -- as well as Hoveyzeh, Mehran, Sumar, Qasr-e Shirin and Khosrow. He said Iraq is ready for a long war, while Iran will be unable to endure another 2 years of fighting. INA also reported that in a speech to volunteers, Saddam Husayn claimed that over 6,000 Iranian bodies litter the Bostan front opposite Iraqi positions.

Iran

The clandestine Voice of Iran radio rebutted Tehran radio's report that the recent death of Council of Guardians member 'Abdorrahim Rabbani-Shirazi was the result of an accident when his car was travelling at 150 km per hour. The Voice of Iran said Rabbani-Shirazi's car overturned after it was attacked by combatants fighting against the Khomeyni regime. Meanwhile, IRNA reported that the Mojahedin-e Khalq assassinated another theologian in east Tehran on 7 March.

DAILY REPORT

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CHEMICAL WARFARE CHARGES CALLED SLANDER, LIES

LD100650 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 10 Mar 82

[By BAKHTAR political observer]

[Text] Kabul, 9 March (BAKHTAR) -- Reagan and his accomplices in the White House, Pentagon and CIA, the devilish propaganda machine of the imperialist, the politicians of the capitalist world have recently joined hands in unleashing a fresh wave of slander and lies against Afghanistan and the Government of the DRA.

This time they have resorted to the most shameless and unfounded lies and slanders invented by the Pentagon and the CIA and their lackeys.

It is for some months that the United States, its devilish lie fabricating machine and evil mass media are telling big lies and making unfounded allegations, as if the DRA Armed Forces have used chemical weapons in their fight against the counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan. We are very well acquainted with these lies and slanders. After the victory of the April Revolution, especially in its new evolutionary phase, we have been experiencing these slanders and accusations.

But, this time when the imperialist propaganda machine has run out of its fuel and is now trumpetting another concocted story about revolutionary Afghanistan, we are forced to present the facts to the people of the world to expose the ugly face of these enemies who, under the screen of false sympathies with our people, are harboring malicious designs.

Let us ask: What is the aim of these lies and concoctions? And who are those whose hands are stained with the most dreadful, inhuman and brutal criminal acts, i.e., the use of chemical and biological weapons, nerve gases which have paralyzing effects on man, napalm bombs and others? And who are the ones who are producing and stockpiling thousands of tons of these weapons in their arsenals?

It is not fortuitous that the criminal United States has chosen to launch this wave of accusations at this time against Afghanistan. It was just the last month that President Reagan presented a bill to the Congress in which he demanded from the Congress the resumption of the production and stockpiling of chemical weapons in addition to the hundreds of thousands tons of these weapons which are at present stored in the arsenals.

On the basis of the facts and figures and according to the confessions of the rulers of the White House and Pentagon, one can say that America even now has more than 150,000 tons of chemical weapons, 3 million warheads containing chemical weapons, tens of thousands of chemical bombs, hundreds of thousands of mines containing chemical material stockpiled in the United States soil and on the territory of the FRG.

At present, the Pentagon has proposed to icrease the total number of the American warheads containing chemical materials form 3 million to 5 million, and to substitute the old chemical weapons with the most modern types of this inhuman weapon. To achieve this, the Pentagon has allocated a sum of 4 to 10 billion dollars in the budget of the coming years.

Also, to conduct research for the development of the new types of this dreadful weapon, America has alloted another 2,500 million dollars. In this connection we can go on increasing the list and mention tens and hundreds of other staggering figures spent for this purpose.

It is interesting to note that the USA spends all this money to bring death and destruction to the people at a time when in this paradise of the so-called Free World about 10 million of its people are unemployed and starving millions of children in the world are in need of morsel of bread just to live.

To conceal all terrible crimes from the people of our planet and deceive the people of the world and USA, the USA contends that Afghanistan has used chemical weapons against the counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan but this kind of falsity will not hoodwink anybody.

The people of the [words indistinct] that the very structure of (?capitalism) is based on crime, tyranny and exploitation. Whose hands are stained with blood, and in these crimes? Is it the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan or Reagan and his cooperators?

One may recall that last year Afghan security forces captured the chemical weapons with mark CS-517, made in USA from the counterrevolutionaries in Herat Province. It is also known that the chemical weapons marked PKT, 83 mm and M460/026, made by the Federal Laboratories of Pennsylvania, USA, were captured in Ghazni Province recently. All the world knows how the crimes committed by the counterrevolutionary last year, who used a piosonous gas made in USA in Kabul schools. Who put this kind of weapons at the disposal of the counterrevolutionaries of Afghanistan? Which country produced these terrible and lethal weapons? Who killed our children, youngsters and people? All know that this is CIA of the criminal USA.

All the people of the world know that it was the U.S. imperialism that dropped more than a hundred thousand tons of chemical bombs during the wartime in Vietnam, killing or maiming 2 million Vietnamese. It was the United States again which defoliated 43 percent of farm land by the use of lethal defoliants. Every day many maimed children are born in Vietnam as a result of the use of chemical weapons in Vietnam.

Do the state and regime who committed this kind of crimes have the right to speak about the human rights? The BAKHTAR news agency totally and emphatically refutes these unfounded, empty and completely false accusations. This hue and cry and this groundless slanders can no longer deceive any person, because the people of the world have understood the criminal and devilish nature of this great devil, the United States.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' ROUTED IN PROVINCES

GF091639 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Reports received from Baghlan, Badakhshan, Helmand and Qonduz Provinces indicate that the gangs of the counterrevolutionaries who were disrupting the peaceful life in the various districts of the mentioned provinces were crushed with their band leaders by the security forces and the defenders of the revolution in those regions. The reports add that some of these stealthy and treacherous elements were captured with large quantities of various types of weapons.

GUERRILLA LEADERS ADMIT LOSSES OF 1,000 MEN

TA090716 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Guerrilla leaders in Afghanistan have admitted big losses in a major military operation carried out by a joint Afghan-Soviet force. They say they lost about 1,000 men when the guerrilla stronghold of (?Sayyed Hiaz) north of Kabul was surrounded. Following a continuous bombardment by artillery, rockets and aircraft, the force moved in, destroying several villages and executing 400 men. Seven hundred others were sent to prison.

SATTAR RETURNS FROM JIDDA ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

BK100239 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 10 Mar 82

[Text] President Abdus Sattar returned home from Jidda after midnight last night after attending the meeting of the nine-member Organization of Islamic Conference peace committee on the Iran-Iraq war. Talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport, the president said the peace committee, which met after about a year, decided to form a four-member smaller committee to establish direct contact with the leaders of two warring Muslim countries in a bid to end the 18-month-old conflict.

He said the peace mission during its visit to Baghdad and Tehran had useful exchange of views with the two heads of state and other leaders on ways and means to halt this fratricidal war. He said the outcome of the talks has been very encouraging. President Sattar expressed his confidence that a peaceful solution to the conflict will surely come through the Islamic peace mission. He, however, said it is not possible to halt the 18-month-old war in a day or two.

The president said the new committee will meet from time to time. The chairman of the nine-member peace committee, President Sekou Toure of Guinea, and the full committee will be kept informed about the outcome of deliberations of the ministerial committee. Vice President M.N. Huda; Bangladesh National Party Secretary General Badruddozha Chowdhury; Cabinet ministers and high civil and military officials were among those present at the airport to receive the president.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

BK081416 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] A three-member trade union delegation from Bangladesh left for Moscow today to attend the 17th congress of Soviet trade unions. The visit takes place at the invitation of the Soviet All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

MOHAMMAD YUSUF ALI DEPARTS FOR VISIT TO ROMANIA

BK090734 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0605 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Industries Minister [words indistinct] left Dacca last night on a 4-day visit to Romania. During the visit the industries minister will hold talks with his Romanian counterpart and finance and food ministers on matters of mutual interest with particular reference to expansion of existing trade (?and cooperation). The minister is also expected to discuss the possibilities of importing textile machinery from Romania and establishing a garment factory under joint collaboration in Bangladesh.

BURMESE TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK071556 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] A 6-member Burmese trade delegation arrived in Dacca tonight on a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. The delegation, headed by Burmese Minister for Foreign Trade U Khin Maung Gyi, is expected to discuss bilateral trade relations with Bangladesh leaders and officials during its stay in Dacca.

HAQ EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN ISLAMIC PEACE MISSION

BK100353 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the visits of the Islamic peace committee delegation to Baghdad and Tehran had marked a step forward, although there had been no spectacular results. In an interview with the INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY in Jidda at the end of the meeting of the committee, he described the mission as very positive effort. He said they hoped that with continued efforts they will be able to bring peace between Iran and Iraq.

Giving his personal assessment of the efforts, the president said he had seen some positive results from both sides which showed keenness and eagerness toward achieving peace. It should be their efforts that peace was brought about in honor and dignity and that not a single day lost in that process. He said President Saddam Husayn of Iraq and his government were very responsive and cooperative and they had found the new leadership in Iran was equally so.

Referring to the setting up of a working group by the Islamic peace committee, he expressed his confidence that under the guidance and able leadership of Sekou Toure of Guinea, it would be able to achieve greater progress.

Replying to a question, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq reaffirmed Pakistan's support to the Middle East peace plan put forward by Prince Fahd and said it had very positive aspects and properly analysed solution in their proper scope. He emphasized the need for solidarity in the Muslim world and full support to the rights of Palestinian people for a solution of the Middle East problem.

Referring to the Afghanistan issue, the president said Pakistan wanted a peaceful settlement of the issue within the framework of principles set out by the organization of Islamic conference, the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations. These were that the Soviet troops must withdraw, the Afghan refugees must return to their home with honor and dignity, the Afghan people should have the right to choose their own system of government and the nonaligned and Islamic status of Afghanistan must be restored.

Replying to a question, he said the influx of Afghan refugees had been increasing day by day and Pakistan had now 2.5 million of these unfortunate people. The president acknowleged with gratitude the assistance was getting from Islamic states and international agencies to shoulder the burden. But regretted that it was not up to their expectations.

Replying to another question, he said the violations of Pakistan airspace and territory from across the border was still continuing.

Referring to India-Pakistan relations, he said Pakistan looks forward to a continuing positive response from India to Islamabad's initiative toward a bilateral nonaggression treaty. Asked if the negotiations had run into any difficulties, the president said there was a slight delay, but he did not mind it. He was confident they would have a positive response in due time.

Replying to still another question, he described as mere propaganda the claim by some quarters that Pakistan was trying to make atomic bomb. The president said Pakistan was engaged in a modest nuclear technological program for peaceful purposes depending entirely on its own resources. He said Pakistan had not received any fund from Islamic states for its nuclear program.

SPOKESMAN CALLS ARREST FIGURES 'EXAGGERATED'

BK070707 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] An official spokesman in Islamabad has described as highly exaggerated and misleading the figures of arrested persons appearing in a section of the press. The spokesman also described the reports as totally baseless and mischievous about the existence of torture camps in Pakistan.

FORMER PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR ASSASSINATED

BK070823 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Former Governor of the Northwest Frontier Province (Arbab Sikandar Khan Khalif) was shot dead by some unknown persons this morning. He was shot while taking his usual stroll in his village, Tahkal Bala, near Peshawar. He was 65. According to official sources, a special team has been appointed to inquire into the incident.

PRESIDENT TO HOLD TALKS WITH OPPOSITION

GF092000 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 1 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Karachi, 28 Feb -- It has been learned that President Gen Ziaul Haq will meet with leaders of the defunct political parties in Islamabad next month. This was learned from informed sources who say the meeting may take place in the second or third week of April in Islamabad. It is expected that issues such as internal and external threats to the country, the political atmosphere, the holding of elections and other such matters may be discussed. It was disclosed that the persons expected to be invited to Islamabad for talks will include several leaders of the defunct parties including the progressive group of the defunct People's Party. It is also learned that during the recent telephone conversation between the president and Asghar Khan, chief of the Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, the subject of talks with political leaders was mentioned. Meanwhile, political leaders have already begun efforts to find a formula for agreement on a wider alliance on questions such as the holding of elections.

BRIEFS

RADIO PAKISTAN'S BIGGEST TRANSMITTER -- Work on the fabrication of a 300-kilowatt medium wave -- the biggest ever -- transmitter of Radio Pakistan by its own engineers began at Riwat near Rawalpindi on 7 March. The transmitter will be installed at Khuzdar station of the Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation in Baluchistan covering a radius of 150 miles. It will be completed in 2 years at an estimated cost of about 25 million rupees. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Mar 82 BK]

FOOD AID TO AFGHAN REFUGEES -- The World Food Program announces that it will provide additional emergency food aid worth $11.3 million for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The aid will be in the form of wheat, dried milk and edible oil in the next 2 months. The World Food Program has so far provided food aid worth $125.9 million for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Meanwhile Australia will provide another 10,000 tons of wheat worth about $2 million for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Announcing the gift, the Australian foreign minister said that the aid will be in addition to the 15,000 tons of wheat which was provided through the UNHCR for Afghan refugees. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Mar 82 BK]

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES COMBATANTS, GUARDS 9 MAR

LD091340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to Iranian combatants and members of the Guards Corps at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 9 March -- recorded, duration 25 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. You young people have shown on the battlefronts of the war between right and wrong that although the enemy possesses large amounts of weapons and personnel and despite the fact that the enemy receives direct assistance from Egypt, Jordan and other countries, a group of people small in number but great in their spiritual force have stood against them and have defeated them all. Brothers, keep your faith, keep this divine power, keep your commitment to Islam and the nation and go forward.

It is said that 1 crazy man can throw a stone into a well which might take 50 wisemen to pull out; Saddam is that madman who threw the stone into the well and caused a lot of trouble for his own nation, our nation and other nations. Now Saddam has appealed to other countries to come and mediate in order to save him. He is past salvation and we will not retreat even one step. [shouts of "God is great" and other slogans from the crowd]

Making peace with criminals and reaching a compromise with them is like committing a crime against faithful people; it is a crime against Islam.

From the very first day we made our views clear and these views will remain the same in the future, too. There are criminal elements in our country and we want them to leave. Muslims are dutybound according to the holy religion to come and help us throw them out. The holy religion dictates in the Koran that if one tribe of Muslims invades another, it is the obligation of all Muslims to fight against the criminal invader. If the invaders return to the path of God, then Muslims can sit down and negotiate with them.

We believe that criminals of the Ba'th Party commit crimes during war as well as during peace. During their time of power in Iraq, they have not waged war all the time, but it is clear to the Muslims, to Islam, to the Iraqi nation and to the high-ranking clergy of Iraq and the ulema of Islam [words indistinct] every day. Then Saddam carried out that mad act and that aggression which is instinctive to Saddam. Now the wisemen of Islam and the world have joined hands to pull this stone out of the well. But this act of insanity performed by this madman is such that it can only be remedied by power of faith and our weapons.

You have proven that you can stand against superpowers. History will keep a record of the battles you have fought. Today all the powerful sources and all rumormongers can write articles against you and the Islamic Republic or make speeches to the same effect or conspire against you, but they cannot conceal the truth. You are in the right just as our imam, the lord of martyrs [third imam of the Shi'ites], was in the right and succeeded in resisting. Although he was martyred together with his supporters our imam, lord of martyrs, revived Islam. You are the Shi'ites following the same lord.

You, too, have created miracles in Abadan and Tang-e Chazzabeh. It was a miracle because you were few in numbers but your power came from your faith which created the miracle.

Saddam, who acted on his dreams, is now regretting his actions and is begging other countries for help; a large majority of these countries are helping him. But all these helpful hands have not been able to bring him faith since they themselves also lack faith.

This is where they are making the mistake, thinking that large quantities of arms and ammunition can do the work. They are ignorant of the fact that work can only be done by powerful arms, a few persons with strong arms, assured hearts, faith in God Almighty, love of martyrdom and joining God; these are the things which guarantee victory.

Victory is not achieved by swords; it can only be achieved by blood. Victory is not achieved by large populations; it is achieved by strength of faith.

These unfortunate people who have fled Iran, who live abroad; these people who, entertaining vain and diabolical dreams, are making utterances and false statements. One of the big lies by these people, a lie perhaps broadcast by various radios every night -- a lie which was broadcast two or three times last night -- is the claim that Iran is receiving weapons from Israel. This claim is made against Iran which has been engaged in a war against Israel for 20 years and which has always condemned Israel. Iran cannot reach any agreement with Israel because of its religious precepts. Last night it was being claimed that this or that has been said by so and so, that the Iranian Government is buying weapons from Israel.

As for those waiting abroad, waiting to return to Iran -- after all the sacrifices made by you young people, in order to hand over Iran to a bunch of deviates -- these people think as Saddam does. Saddam, too, was entertaining the thought, a thought further strengthened by arch-Satans, to invade Iran. Saddam was led to believe that Iran was in a state of anarchy, that Iran lacked an army. He was told to do this in order to make a name for himself. Little did he know that here even small children will stand up to him, that as long as these people are around Saddam cannot achieve his desired goals.

You asked me to pray for you; I always pray for you. I always pray for you all; I love you all; you are my brothers and my children. I tell you in the presence of God Almighty that your victories are those of Islam's. I am proud; I take pride in the presence of God for having lived at this time when we have such young people. God bless you all.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES ARDABILI, OTHER OFFICIALS

LD091130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Mr Musavi-Ardabili, the president of the Supreme Court, met and conferred with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning. At this meeting, the president of the Supreme Court briefed the imam about the situation regarding the Guilds Court [dealing with trade association cases], the issue of granting amnesty to prisoners and the policies followed by religious judges. Imam Khomeyni provided him with some guidelines on the issues raised.

Also, officials in charge of Imam Khomeyni's relief committee met the imam at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran this morning.

'AZIZI DENIES REPORT ON 'LISTENING POST'

LD081148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran has strongly denied the rumors concerning the establishment of a listening post in the eastern part of Iran. Here is an interview given to our correspondent by Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi.

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr 'Azizi, the imperialist and Zionist media recently reported that a listening post has been set up in the eastern part of Iran, in the vicinity of Baluchestan. What is the Foreign Ministry of Iran's view on this?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. These types of news reports are generally part and parcel of America's propaganda. It is quite possible that the (?source) which reported this was not original source; rather, it could have quoted other sources. Nowadays America is seeking grounds in order to justify its presence in sensitive and vital parts of the world. Consequently, it is attempting to create favorable grounds in public opinion, particularly among Americans, to accept and approve the U.S. military presence in certain desired regions.

These excuses are nothing new for they have been used in other regions. To be specific, I can cite four recent cases: the unfounded claim that Iranian aircraft bombed Kuwait; the unfounded claim that Iran was involved in the coup d'etat in Bahrain; the threat posed to Sudan by Libya, which was followed by the maneuver in North Africa and Gulf of Oman; and the [word indistinct] Polisario in the Sahara, using foreign military equipment [words indistinct].

Needless to say, at times there are grounds for (?fear). As an example, I can refer to the occupation of Afghanistan by the USSR which is a very good excuse for America to pursue this policy and then achieve it ends. Then there is another dimension to the issue, dealing a blow to the Islamic Republic's "Neither East nor West" policy.

The Islamic Republic of Iran denies this claim. We are convinced that the aware people of the world know that the revolution by the Muslim Iranians is founded on rejecting both the West and the East and their influence in our country. There remains no doubt that our nation will not allow such interferences. The fact is that even the raising of such an issue is rejected by world public opinion. [end recording]

KHAMENE'I GREETS AL-ASAD ON ANNIVERSARY

LD091152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Congratulations message sent by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the anniversary of the Syrian revolution]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. His Excellency Mr Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic:

I take pleasure in extending the best wishes of the Islamic and revolutionary nation and Government of Iran and my own best wishes to you and to the Government and nation of Syria on the anniversary of the Syrian revolution.

Syria has for many years confronted the hostilities and conspiracies plotted by imperialists and Zionists and has always stayed on the front line of the anti-Zionist movement of the Arab nation and bravely defended its national and revolutionary honor.

This is a good opportunity for the Muslim and revolutionary Government and nation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which since the beginning of the revolution has fought plundering imperialism, America and its reactionary agents in the region, to renew its pledge to God for all-round support to your just and rightful goals in the struggle against the occupying regime in Palestine. We are sure that the Islamic nation, in spite of the sabotage undertaken by failed agents of the evil powers, will form a glorious Islamic unity and that it will stand up to all colonialist and reactionary plots enjoying a powerful backing and put and end to their dark deeds creating enmity and division.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you health and success in serving the people and beseech Almighty God for prosperity, good fortune and victory over the enemies of Islam for the Muslim and brother nation of Syria.

[Signed] Your Brother Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MUSAVI RECEIVES TURKISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

LD091824 Tehran IRNA in English 1613 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Tehran, 9 Mar (IRNA) -- Prime Minister Musavi today received the Turkish deputy prime minister in charge of economic planning, Mr Turgut Ozal, to discuss current economic relations between the two countries.

In this meeting, which was also attended by Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of state in charge of executive affairs, and Turkish and Iranian ambassadors, Mr Musavi said that there had been a widespread propaganda campaign during the past six months aiming at straining relations between Iran and Turkey, and he hoped that present talks could prove such spiteful rumours baseless. The prime minister added that at present the Muslim countries had a historical opportunity to break the myth that Western civilisation was superior, adding that this psychological block lifted the technological gap between the Muslim countries and the West would be quickly crossed.

The Turkish delegation, headed by Mr Ozal, spent their fifth day in Iran [words indistinct] and both countries have made important economic agreements, including the construction of an oil pipeline to Turkish ports, building a natural gas pipeline to Europe through Turkey, the sale of natural gas and some 4 million tons of crude oil to Turkey among other agreements in industrial commercial and petrochemical fields.

TEHRAN ATTACKS MUBARAK, DEATH SENTENCES

GF090826 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Blood of the Innocent Will Always Drown the Cruel"]

[Excerpts] The military court in Cairo yesterday passed death sentences on five heroic Muslims headed by Lieutenant Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli. However, it is not yet known whether the sentences will be endorsed, first by the higher courts and then by Husni Mubarak.

Nevertheless, these Islamic heroes did not agree to the procedures of the idolatrous [taghuti] regime's court from the beginning so as to accept the sentences passed on them now. In fact, each and every one of these heroes did not change his stand after the verdict was passed, saying: Yes, we have killed that servant of Zionism and enemy of Islam. We are as happy to receive death sentences from your idolatrous regime today as we were the day we killed him. This war is an everlasting one between blasphemy and faith and between right and wrong. It will continue forever. We can only be happy if we have been able to do what was expected from us in the endless period of time. It must not be forgotten that every drop of blood shed in a tyrannical way will become a torrent that will drown the enemies of Islam.

Yes, stating, on 6 October 1981, that such a person cannot lead Muslims and that a community has lost its honor and prestige as a Muslim entity because it is being led by enemies of Islam, the Muslims carried out the sentence passed on As-Sadat -- the enemy of Islam and puppet of infidel imperialists who offered Islamic lands to Zionist Jews when no one had the right to do so.

Months have lapsed since that day, but the heroes have moved on sound ground up to the last moment without a change. Now, this idolatrous regime has passed the death sentence on them.

It has been understood, however, that Husni Mubarak and those around him are in a deadlock. Their hearts are filled with the fear that they will be endangering themselves if they move to carry out the sentences passed by the courts of the idolatrous regime. This is only one side of the story.

The other is the disclosure made by Israel, which is a state of highwaymen, to the effect that in the event the execution of the assassins is avoided the promise that it will withdraw from the Sinai desert in April may be suppressed.

Meanwhile, U.S. imperialism has started to hint from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean that in the event the execution of the punishment passed on As-Sadat's assassins is deferred due to fear of Muslims, the latter will be further encouraged and no one would be able to foretell what developments would ensue. Therefore, Husni Mubarak's regime must be uncompromising, otherwise, there is the possibility that conditions under such an eventuality may force it to withdraw.

Husni Mubarak has been caught between these orders, threats and instructions and the fear that he will be destroyed. Meanwhile, the world of sinners is well aware of the fact that it must not leave him alone. Such is the loyalty and solidarity between infidels and hypocrites that they can unfortunately constitute an example for the Muslims. Regardless of this, however, if the Muslims had set up solidarity among themselves as required by Islam, the world's face would have been different and so would the weight of the Islamic nation in international politics.

BAKHTIAR TESTIFIES AGAINST ASSASSINS 8 MAR

NC082115 Paris AFP in English 2035 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar told a French court near here today that the five men on trial for his attempted assassination had acted on "inspiration from Iran."

Mr Bakhtiar, who served 37 days as the last prime minister under the Shah's regime, testified at the trial in the Nanterre Court House, near Paris, amid tight security precautions mounted by several hundred policemen. He had arrived in an armored car.

As in previous sessions, the five (?defendants) had refused to appear in court.

They are being tried for attempting to murder Mr Bakhtiar in an attack on his Paris area apartment last July that left two people dead and three other wounded.

Mr Bakhtiar called the defendants -- two Lebanese, two (?Iraqis and one Jordanian) -- "an extraordinary mixture in connivance with" the Iranian Republic's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

He told the court that Ayatollah Khomeyni had always "fiercely opposed" him because he wanted to restore democracy and defuse violence in Iran.

The occasionally rocky trial had only one disruption today by an Iranian demanding to speak. Police said the man, who was expelled, was a nephew of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The trial is to continue tomorrow and a verdict should be handed down Wednesday.

IRNA ON ASSASSINATION, 'TERRORIST' ACTIVITIES

LD091804 Tehran IRNA in English 1559 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Tehran, 9 Mar (IRNA) -- Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Chavoshi, a member of the ideological-political centre of the Iranian Navy was martyred following an assassination attempt by the members of the monafeqin [hypocrites] (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khalq] splinter group. On Sunday morning passengers of an automobile dressed in Islamic revolutionary guard uniform and religious scholars' garb, opened fire at the car of hojjat ol-Eslam Chavoshi in a road in the eastern part of Tehran and wounded him. The hojjat ol-Eslam was taken to hospital but succumbed to his wounds on Monday. The ideological and political center of the navy strongly condemned this inhuman action.

Meanwhile at 10 a.m. on Monday, an MKO member set fire to a shop belonging to [words indistinct] Muslim man, by using a Molotov cocktail. In this terrorist attack, which took place in Sina Streeet, eastern Tehran, several children were severely wounded and are reportedly in critical condition. According to the inhabitants of the district, some time ago the old man's son had been martyred by MKO terrorists. The report said that several people had been arrested in connection with the incident.

The last major terrorist attack on [words indistinct] in Tehran [words indistinct] Square, when a powerful bomb exploded, martyring more than 15 and wounding 60 other innocent people, including several school children, while badly damaging homes and buildings in the surrounding area.

'COMBATANTS' REPORTEDLY KILLED RABBANI-SHIRAZI

NC091326 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi, a member of the regime's Council of Guardians, has been killed. A Voice of Iran correspondent confirmed in the last report dispatched today that the death of Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi on the Qom-Esfahan highway occurred near Delijan and that two of his personal bodyguards were seriously injured and reportedly taken to a hospital.

The Voice of Iran correspondent adds that initial reports by the Tehran state radio state that Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi was killed in a car crash and that the car, in which he was traveling at 150 km hour, overturned, killing Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi. But some hours later it was said in Delijan, Qom and Tehran that the car transporting Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi was attacked by several combatants fighting against the clerical regime and that the car overturned as a result of this attack.

In conclusion, our correspondent adds that, nevertheless, officials of Khomeyni's regime are trying to present the cause of Sheykh Rabani-Shirazi's death as a car crash. Sheykh Rabbani-Shirazi was one of the devoted peons of the regime who had been appointed to the Council of Guardians of the Islamic Republic.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 813

LD092144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Communique 813 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its condolences on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Her Holiness Fatima Zahra, may God's peace be upon her, the mistress of all the women of the world, the mother of the saints and holy wife; to the lord of the age, His Holiness Mahdi, may God hasten his glad advent; to Imam Khomeyni, great leader of the revolution, founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and commander in chief of the armed forces, and to all the Muslims of the world, especially the dear compatriots. With greetings to the blood-stained martyrs on the fronts of the battle between truth and falsehood. The Joint Staff reports the results of the fighting and the operations of the self-sacrificing brothers of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation on the warfronts.

According to a report by the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the brave and self-sacrificing air force pilots inflicted heavy blows on the positions and fortifications of the Iraqi forces in Abadan and the 'Eyn Khosh fronts. They successfully bombed their targets and inflicted crushing blows on the forces of Saddam. All of them returned safely and victoriously to their bases.

Yesterday, the exchange of artillery fire and other heavy-weapon fire between our powerful forces and the enemy continued on most of the western fronts.

On the Meymak front, the fighters of Islam silenced the enemy fire and destroyed a number of the positions and personnel of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

On one of the fronts in Gilan-e Gharb, as the result of the mortar fire of our forces, heavy losses and casualties were inflicted upon the enemy.

On other western fronts, the fighters of the ground forces and the brave fighters of the irregular tribal forces defended their positions and killed a number of Saddam's forces and destroyed one armored vehicle and one jeep.

On the Nowsud and Shur-e Shirin fronts, the gendarmerie opened fire on enemy positions and silenced their fire. They destroyed a number of the Iraqi personnel.

Yesterday, fighting continued on all the southern fronts with the exchange of artillery fire and other heavy weapons. The fire of our powerful forces halted any enemy movement. Also, in a number of limited operations, they inflicted blows upon the forces of Saddam.

Abadan again came under enemy-weapons fire. A number of residential houses were destroyed and a number of dear compatriots were wounded.

Yesterday enemy aircraft tried to violate the airspace of a number of towns in the war zone, but they were forced to flee as the result of antiaircraft fire by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the battles on 7 March, seven of the fighters on the fronts of truth from the Ground Forces, the Navy and the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the ranks of the eternal martyrs. May they be blessed.

GUARDS CORPS REPORTS ON SITUATION AT FRONTS

LD092240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced that during the past 24 hours the exchange of artillery fire and other heavy weapons continued on the southern fronts.

The forces of Islam opened fire on enemy positions, halted the movement of the aggressive forces of Saddam and inflicted casualities and losses upon them.

As the result of fire by the guards' 106-mm guns on the Khorramshahr fronts, one enemy mortar position and three of their machinegun positions were destroyed and a number of enemy forces were killed or wounded. Also, as the result of fire by the medium-heavy weapons of the guards on this front, a number of enemy foxholes and trenches were destroyed and a number of Saddam's forces were killed or wounded.

On the Mansurin front in Khorramshahr, as the result of fire by the fighters in Islam, an enemy bunker was destroyed and its occupants were killed.

Also, according to IRNA, in a face-to-face clash today on one of the fronts of Zahab between the forces of Islam and the aggressive forces of Saddam, a number of the enemy were killed and some enemy equipment was damaged.

As a result of the accurate fire of the fighters of Islam over enemy positions and fortifications at the Daraji post inside Iraqi territory, some casualties were inflicted upon the enemy forces and part of the post was destroyed. Also, two trenches and one tank position of Saddam's forces were destroyed.

Also, according to the Central News Unit, the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga attacked a military camp in (Shanedari) in Iraq. They managed to kill a number of the Ba'thist aggressors and had the town under their control for about 3 hours. In this brave attack, the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga used a loud-speaker to ask the aggressive Ba'thists to stop their aggression and to join Islam.

On the Zahab, Baraftab, Kaseh-Kabud, Kur-e Mush and Qaraviz fronts, as the result of fire by the fighters of Islam, about 40 of the enemy forces were killed and a number were wounded.

On these fronts, 18 vehicles, 1 antiaircraft gun, 1 machinegun, and 1 trench of Saddam's forces were destroyed.

VOICE OF IRAN: 2 PILOTS DEFECT TO SAUDI ARABIA

NC091519 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Two patriotic Iranian pilots, who are staunch opponents of Khomeyni's regime, have fled Iran in two Phantom aircraft to Saudi Arabia, where they have asked for political asylum.

In its last issue, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' revealed that an Iranian pilot, on a reconnaissance flight over the southern parts of Iran, suddenly changed course. Despite an attack by several other Phantom aircraft, he was able to leave Iranian airspace and land at one of Saudi Arabia's airports.

According to the same report, Saudi officials have accepted this antiregime pilot's asylum request.

Meanwhile, quoting informed sources, the Beirut newspaper AL-ANWAR has reported that another Iranian pilot, using the same method, landed in Saudi Arabia, from where he went to another Arab country and was granted political asylum there.

According to this report, Saudi officials have not commented on this but Khomeyni's ambassador to Kuwait, 'Ali Shams Ardakani, was compelled to confirm the defection of the two antiregime pilots in Phantom aircraft from Iran.

Meanwhile, a REUTER report states that 'Ali Shams Ardakani has said that so far his efforts to obtain a reliable report on this have not yielded any results.

Despite the tense relations between Tehran and Riyadh, Saudi Arabian officials are expected to return the two Iranian Phantoms to Khomeyni's Islamic Republic with the help of a third country.